

One only I wish to refer to: Beebe, in an article in the *J. A. M. A.*, Mar. 4, 1911, says the action of thyroid seems chiefly to be "to detoxicate or render innocuous the metabolic toxins of the body; sensitiveness varies in different cases; it seems probable that it acts on most of the tissues of the body in part through the action of the nervous system." Again he says: "From the evidence which is now obtainable I think we must conclude that the thyroid gland forms a hormone, which may be present within wide limits in the condition we call health and which stimulates a variety of tissues to a physiologic and at times a pathologic degree of activity."

This, then, would make a good theoretical working basis: that tinnitus aurium can be caused by toxins irritating either the auditory centers or the cochlear nerve or its endings, and that such toxins may be produced by a lack of some one or more of the ductless gland secretions. We know cretin deafness to be a fact, and to be improved under thyroid. G. Bruhl, in a recent article says: "I have used the treatment myself and have supposed, after several successful cases, that there existed a connection between function, respective loss of function of the thyroid, and the organ of hearing." As yet the number of cases treated is too small to draw an absolute conclusion from, but the outlook is encouraging and ought to stimulate more research on the part of others.

I append a report of a series of cases and summary of same. In this series we used thyroid, para-thyroid and thymus gland extracts. The summary of results in this condition is difficult. Of course a "cured case," in the strict sense of the word, is one whose tinnitus has absolutely disappeared. That we can ever attain this result I doubt inasmuch as even normal persons have a certain degree of tinnitus at all times. In this summary I classified as "cured" those who had ceased to notice the tinnitus; as "practically cured" those who only noticed it slightly at times, often long intervals. The other terms will explain themselves.

There were 46 cases treated. Some of these failed to report after first visit, so the number observed was 33. I have classified these as—nerve lesions (9), otitis media chronica catarrhalis (14), tubo-tympanic catarrh (7), otosclerosis and chronic adhesive process (1), otitis media chronica purulenta (1), normal ear (1).

O. M. C. P.1—no change.

O. M. C. C. 5 cured, 2 practically cured, 2 much improved, 2 taken off treatment, 2 slightly improved.

Leasio Auris Internis—2 cured, 1 practically cured, 2 much improved, 1 no change, 2 slight improvement.

Otosclerosis—7 no change.

Normal Ear—1 not improved.

Chronic Adhesive Process—1 slight improvement.

Tubo-Tympanic Catarrh—6 practically cured, 1 much improved.

We have made also some interesting observations on patients using this treatment. Many report improved hearing. A number exhibited before treatment signs of hypo-thyroidism, such as dry skin, harsh, dry hair. In no case was the weight lowered under thyroid or para-thyroid.

In conclusion, I would urge others in trying this treatment to exercise great care and judgment in the use of these powerful drugs and not use them indiscriminately, for they are as potent for harm as good when abused.

SOCIETY REPORT

MERCED COUNTY.

The Merced County Medical Society held a meeting October 2nd at the office of Dr. H. Kyberg, secretary, in the Shaffer building.

This being the first meeting after the summer vacation, an unusual interest and good attendance marked the session. Two new members were added to the roll—Dr. J. H. McClellan of Los Banos, and Dr. J. M. Hicks of Livingston.

A highly interesting and instructive paper on "Caesarean Section," with reports of two recent cases in his own practice, was ably presented by Dr. E. A. Julien of Turlock.

At 10 p. m. all repaired to a supper at the Hotel El Capitan. The Merced doctors are proud of the harmony and good fellowship existing among the members of the profession, which explains the large membership of this county society.

Other visitors from out of town were Dr. L. J. McClelland and Mrs. Dr. Sophia McClelland of Los Banos, and Drs. Jacobson and Julien of Turlock.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY.

During August the following meetings were held in the rooms of the Society:

Medical Section, Tuesday, August 5, 1913.

1. Infantile Diarrhea Caused by Fresh Alfalfa Dairy Ration. Sanford Blum. Discussed by H. H. Yerington.

2. Some Physiological Factors in the Classification and Treatment of Heart and Kidney Lesions. Martin Fischer. Discussed by G. Adams and C. Quinan.

General Meeting, Tuesday, August 12, 1913.

1. Presentation of Three Cases of Pellagra. J. Frankenheimer. Discussed by J. D. Long and H. D'A. Power.

2. Some Practical Applications of Recent Advances in the Physiology of Digestion. W. C. Alvarez. Discussed by O. Zaicheck.

3. The Menace of Cancer. H. V. Hoffmann.

Surgical Section, Tuesday, August 19, 1913.

1. Case of Bronchial Asthma—Demonstration of Bronchoscopy. Henry Horn.

2. Demonstration of a Simple Ether Apparatus. Francis Williams.

3. Myxolipoma of the Knee Joint. Gilbert M. Barrett. Discussed by C. C. Crane and S. J. Hunkin.

4. Retroperitoneal Displacement of the Duodenum with Interesting Complications. L. W. Allen. Discussed by C. G. Levison and G. M. Barrett.

5. Nerve Injuries, with Report of Cases; Consideration of Nerve Regeneration. C. G. Levison. Discussed by J. H. Barbat and C. F. Welty.

**Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Section, Tuesday,
August 28, 1913—4:30 p. m.**

1. Presentation of Specimen of Fibro-Sarcoma of Naso-Pharynx. H. Horn.
2. Case of Choroiditis of Right Eye, associated with Traumatism; Medico-Legal Importance of such Conditions. M. W. Fredricks.
3. Case of Vestibular Lesion with Ocular Manifestations. H. B. Graham.
4. Case of Paralysis of Left Abducens, Simulating Gradenigo Syndrome, but due to Specific Lesion. V. E. Lucchetti.
5. Description of Green Operation for Dacryocystitis. A. S. Green.

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE SAN FRANCISCO
COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY.**

During the month of September the following meetings were held:

Medical Section. Tuesday, September 2, 1913.

1. Some X-ray Demonstrations. H. E. Ruggles.
2. Photography in its Relation to the Medical Sciences. H. D'Arcy Power. Discussed by A. W. Lee.

Surgical Section. Tuesday, September 16, 1913.

1. Concerning Ununited Fractures. J. T. Watkins. Discussed by H. M. Sherman, L. Eloesser, C. C. Crane, A. M. Taylor and J. Rosenstirn.
2. Implantation of Joints. L. Eloesser. Discussed by J. Rosenstirn, H. M. Sherman and S. L. Haas.

**Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Section. Tuesday,
September 23, 1913.**

1. Demonstration of Case of Gunshot Wound of Both Eyes, with Total Destruction of Left Eye and Dislocation of Lens in Right Eye, showing Ciliary Bodies. Kaspar Pischel.
2. A Review of the Intracranial Complications following Abscess of the Middle Ear. Adolph Baer. Discussed by H. Horn, J. J. Hogan and C. F. Welty.
3. Report of Three Mastoids Complicated by Sinus Thrombosis and Labyrinthitis. Cullen F. Welty. Discussed by H. Horn, A. Baer, R. W. Payne and O. Tobriner.

Urological Section. Tuesday, September 30, 1913.

1. The Use and Abuse of Posterior Endoscopy. J. V. Leonard. Discussed by R. L. Rigdon, M. Krotoszyner and V. Veckl.
2. Removal of Vesical Calculi. Henry Meyer.
3. Demonstration of the Young Lithotrite. A. B. Grosse. Discussed by M. Krotoszyner, A. B. Grosse, W. P. Willard and R. L. Rigdon.
4. The Differential Diagnosis of Renal Tuberculosis and Nephrolithiasis. M. Krotoszyner. Discussed by H. Meyer, R. L. Rigdon and A. B. Grosse.

BOOK REVIEWS

Preventive Medicine and Hygiene. By Milton J. Rosenau. Published by D. Appleton & Co., New York. 1913.

Each chapter contained in this volume is so clear, complete and practical, that it would be difficult to justly compare one with the other,—they are all excellent. This book of Professor Rosenau will go down as one of the classics of modern American medical literature. D. H. C.

Gynecology—Vol. IV. of the Practical Medicine Series. By Emilius C. Dudley and Herbert M.

Stowe, Chicago (The Year Book Publishers). 1913. Price, \$1.35.

This little invaluable volume of abstracts of the most important literature of the year relative to Gynecology is of necessity eminently practical, as everything that passes in critical review before such an experienced and acute observer as Emilius C. Dudley is. The articles chosen show a breadth of view that comes to a well-balanced mind through an abundant experience. Many of the articles are abstracted in detail with reproductions of the original illustrations, but only too rarely there is appended some concise, valuable opinion of the editor. More such seasoned and timely personal hints would indeed give additional value to the reader.

Every person attempting to do any work along the lines of gynecology, and who has not been privileged to read the most important of the original articles covered by this little volume, owes it as a duty to his patients as well as to himself to make a careful review of the same. C. J. T.

Surgical Clinics of John B. Murphy, M. D., at Mercy Hospital, Chicago. August, 1913. Published bi-monthly by W. B. Saunders Co.

Contents.

Some Observations on Vaccine and Serum Therapy from Dr. Murphy's Clinic. By Philip H. Kreuscher, M. D.

The Blood-Supply In and Around the Joints.

Urethrorectal Fistula.

Laminectomy for Bullet in Lumbar Spine—Removal of Bullet.

Fixation of Knee with Backward Luxation of Tibia.

Fracture of the Femur Above Condyles, with Non-union and Overriding of the Patella by the Lower End of the Upper Fragment.

Cylindric-cell Carcinoma of the Breast.

Tumor of the Radius.

Ankylosis of Knee-joint, with Hyperextension of Leg and Excessive Production of Bone Subperiosteally—Acute Infections in Joints; Formalin-Glycerin Treatment.

Postsacral Dermoid.

Pseudarthrosis of Shaft of Humerus—Ankylosis of Elbow: Wrist-drop.

Bony Ankylosis of Jaw, with Interposition of Flaps from Temporal Fascia.

Ununited Fracture of the Tibia: Removal of Silver Wire; Bone Transplantation. Non-union of Fractures—Causes.

Old Ununited Fracture of the Tibia—Transplantation of Bone.

Laminectomy for Aneurysmal Sarcoma.

Exploratory Laparotomy in a Case of Severe Ascites in a Girl Fifteen Years of age.

Vesical Calculus with a History Simulating Prostatic Disease.

Laminectomy for Myeloma of Cord.

Appendicitis.

Laminectomy for Recurrent Endothelioma of Spinal Cord Third Operation.

Glioma of Right Cerebellar Lobe—Patient Kept Breathing with Pulmotor for Thirty-four Hours.

Vaccine and Serum Therapy. By Edwin Henry Schorer, B. S., M. D., Dr. P. H. Second edition. C. V. Mosby Co., St. Louis, 1913. \$3.00.

This admirably written book gives a complete and comprehensive insight in the subject of vaccines and vaccine therapy giving the accepted opinion of their values, at the present date. The different theories on immunity and opsonins are given in detail as well as a complete chapter on the specific diagnosis and conclusions on their value; to this is added the chapter on specific therapy giving the principles upon which this treatment is based, their